IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of resetting a key for accessing a computer program, comprising:

generating an encrypted backdoor key;

providing the backdoor key to the computer program;

comparing the backdoor key to a computed value; and

resetting the key to a default value if the backdoor key matches the computed value;

wherein the default value comprises a default password provided by a manufacturer of the computer program at a time prior to the backdoor key being generated and provided.

2. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the encrypted backdoor key is generated using selected factors including at least one of a timestamp, or an identifier associated with the computer program.

3. (Original) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the identifier is associated with a computer on which the computer program executes.

4. (Original) The method as recited in claim 3, wherein the identifier is selected from the group comprising: license number of the computer program, IP address of the computer, CPU identification number of the computer, and an identifier associated with a hardware configuration of the computer.

5. (Original) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the timestamp represents a future time.

6. (Original) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the selected factors include a random seed.

7. (Original) The method as recited in claim 6, wherein the random seed comprises a timestamp.

8. (Original) The method as recited in claim 6, wherein generating the encrypted backdoor key includes performing a 1-way function on the selected factors.

9. (Original) The method as recited in claim 8, wherein the 1-way function includes Secure Hash Algorithm.

10. (Original) The method as recited in claim 8, further comprising generating the computed value using the 1-way function and the selected factors.

11. (Original) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein resetting the key includes instructing a database system to reset the key to the default value.

12. (Currently Amended) A system for resetting a key for accessing a computer program, comprising a computer configured to:

receive a backdoor key;

compare the backdoor key to a computed value; and

reset the key to a default value if the backdoor key matches the computed value;

wherein the default value comprises a default password provided by a manufacturer of the computer program at a time prior to the backdoor key being generated and provided.

13. (Original) The system as recited in claim 12, further comprising a remote computer configured to generate the backdoor key.

14. (Original) The system as recited in claim 13, wherein the computer is configured to generate the computed value.

15. (Original) The system as recited in claim 14, wherein the key is associated with an administrator account for accessing the computer program.

16. (Original) The system as recited in claim 15, wherein the computer program executes on the computer.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for resetting a key for accessing a computer program, comprising a computer usable storage medium having machine readable code embodied therein for:

receiving a backdoor key;

comparing the backdoor key to a computed value; and

resetting the key to a default value if the backdoor key matches the computed value;

wherein the default value comprises a default password provided by a manufacturer of the computer program at a time prior to the backdoor key being generated and provided.

18. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 17, further comprising a database system configured to store the key, and wherein resetting the key includes instructing the database system to reset the key.

19. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 18, further comprising code for generating the computed value by applying a 1-way function to at least one of a timestamp, an identifier associated with the computer program, or an identifier associated with a computer on which the computer program executes.

20. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 19, wherein the key is associated with an administrator account for accessing the computer program.